Cheselbourne Village School
Cheselbourne
Dorchester
Dorset
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office@cheselbourne.dorset.sch.uk
01258 837306
https://www.facebook.com/cheselbournevillageschool

Headteacher:
Mr C Perry

Sep 7, 2022

Regarding: *Snow*

We were taken a little by surprise by the amount of heavy snow that fell during a short space of time this morning. Thank you to those that checked on the school website and Facebook page for updates. As we have more snow and icy conditions forecast again for the next few days I just wanted to reiterate our protocol for bad weather conditions.

School Closure

We will make every effort to keep the school open, whilst ensuring we prioritise the safety of all our families and staff. In poor weather reasons for closure will include:

- not enough staff being able to get to the school and therefore it would be unsafe to open due to unacceptable ratios of staff to children.
- dangerous driving conditions caused by bad weather making it unsafe for anyone to travel to school.

The school could be forced to close either first thing in the morning or, if snow were to fall during the school day and make travel conditions home unsafe, earlier than the usual end of the day.

In the event of school closure, it will be advertised on the Dorset For You –Dorset school's closure page. We no longer use a phone tree to inform parents but closure notice or information regarding the situation at the school (as like today, the weather conditions can change rapidly either way) will be put up on the NOTICEBOARD section of our website and updates will be posted on our Facebook page. If the school has to close earlier than normal due to worsening conditions, we will contact parents to let them know an earlier pick up time.

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Later Drop Off

Like this morning, if weather conditions worsen around the time of drop off but the school has *not been closed,* then please use your discretion about bringing your child(ren) in a bit later than normal to allow time for driving conditions to improve. This is particularly relevant in our location since even though the school may accessible, further up the valley conditions may be worse. Today we had a number of parents who were able to wait for the weather to improve and then bring their children in later than normal. As this is under exceptional circumstances due to the weather then this is acceptable. Please let us know by email or phone if you decide to do this. Thank you.

School Bus

The school bus will also always run unless driving conditions are considered too dangerous. If the school bus is cancelled then this will also be posted on the website and Facebook page too. The school bus not running is not always a sign that the school is closed, if the school is open, staff will always try to contact parents of bus children directly to let them know about no bus service running. If the school is open and weather improves throughout the day then the bus should run in the evening. If there are any changes to this, then parents will be informed.

Breakfast Club

All the above also applies for children attending Breakfast Club. Given the earlier start for Breakfast Club, if you are unsure about whether to bring children in, then please telephone the school first to make sure staff are in. Thank you.

If you have any further queries regarding this, please speak to Mr Perry. Thank you for understanding.